Appl. No. 09/440,434
Amdt. dated September 9, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 11, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Add a heading section titled Cross-Reference to Related Applications before the

Background of the Invention on page 1 and after the title.

Please move the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 7 to page 1 after the Cross-

Reference to Related Applications heading and before the Background of the Invention and

replace it with the following rewritten paragraph:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/839,319 entitled, "Method and Apparatus for

Remote Audiovisual Signal Recording" filed on May 5, 2004, which is a continuation of U.S.

Application Serial No. 09/440,356 filed on November 15, 1999, now abandoned, which is

assigned to the assignee of the present application and filed on even date herewith, discloses a

related method and apparatus and the contents of that application are hereby incorporated herein

by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 6, with the following rewritten

paragraph:

The preceding embodiments show media program signal reception and the coding and

storage of media programs being performed by distributed delivery systems, each of which

perform all functions. In an additional embodiment as shown in FIG. 13, the signal reception is

shown to be distributed to receive signals in different geographical locations and the coding and

storage functions also being distributed but remote from the signal reception. In FIG. 13 a

plurality of clients 11 through 16 are connectable via the Internet 17 to a client server 49. Also

connected to the Internet 17 are a plurality of storage units 701, 703 and 705. Each of the storage

2

Appl. No. 09/440,434
Amdt. dated September 9, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 11, 2005

units is connected to a media program switch 706 as well as to other sources of media signals

(not shown). The storage units 701, 703 and 705 receive media program signals from switch 706

and, under the control of client server 49, encode and store media programs requested by the

clients 11-16. Switch 706 operates in response to commands from client server 49 via the

Internet 17 and a connection 715 to connect selected media program signals from one or more of

receivers 707, 709, 711 and 713 to the storage units 701, 703 and 705. The receivers 708707,

709, 711 and 712 713 are geographically distributed in Rome, New York, Chicago and Los

Angeles in the present example. Client server 49 is aware of the media program signals available

at each of the receivers and can present listings representing the media programs at each receiver

to the clients 11-16 in the manner previously described. When client server 49 receives a media

program request from a client, it identifies one of the receivers 707, 709, 711 and 713 which

receives the requested program and controls switch 706 to connect the media program signal to a

selected storage unit, e.g. 701. The selected storage unit, e.g. 701, is also directed to detect,

encode, and store the requested media program signal and deliver it to the client on request. In

the embodiment of FIG. 13, it is not required that the storage units be in any particular

geographic location and may even be in a single storage center. Additionally, the media program

signal switching functions of switch 706 may be distributed to a plurality of switches or other

types of signal directing units.

3